



THE

KNIGHT

January-February 2004



VOLUME 26 No. 3. Issue #139. The LITHUANIAN Numismatic Association. Frank Passic, EDITOR.

DOUBLED-DIE 1936 10 LITŲ (VYTAUTAS) COINS DISCOVERED!

By Frank Passic
Editor, *The Knight*

Attention LNA members: Check your Lithuanian 1936 (Y-13, or KM-83) 10 litų silver (Vytautas) coins! You may have something worth more than you now realize! We are announcing the existence of five (5) DIFFERENT doubled-die varieties which have recently been discovered that are definately going to be "hot collecting."

Error collecting has been big business in the collecting community in recent years, and doubled-die coins especially have brought big premiums. A doubled-die coin results when the die that makes it has a double imaged that is therefore transferred to the coin when it is struck.

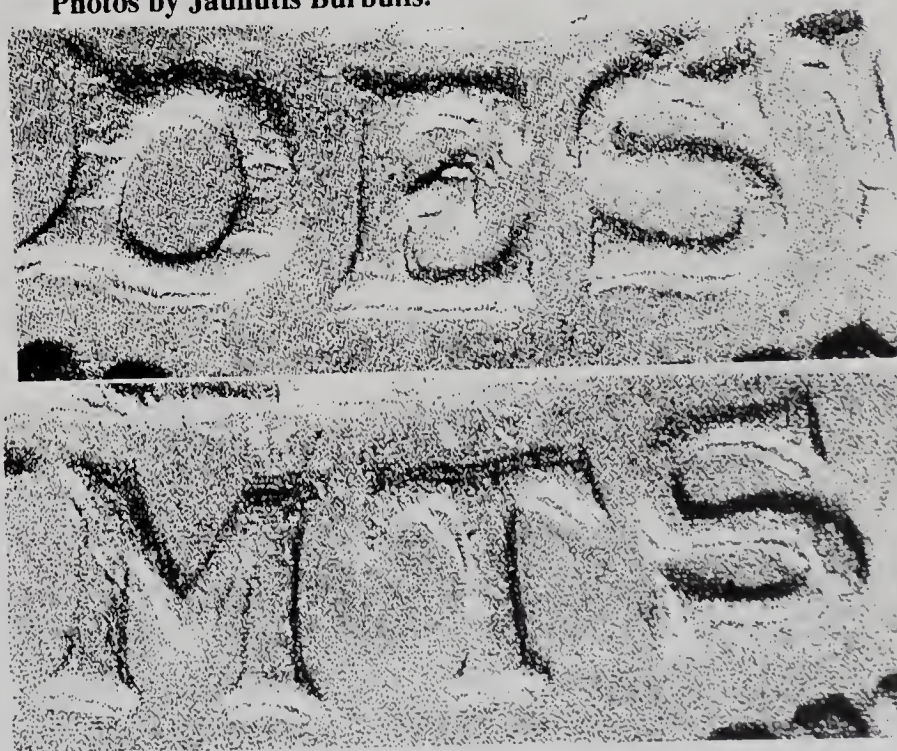
The doubling can occur during these three sequential events in the coin-making process, when either 1) the master hub (patrix-positive image) produces the master dies (matrix-negative image); or 2) when the master dies (matrix-negative image) produce the working hubs (patrix-positive image); or 3) when the working hubs (patrix-positive image) produce the working dies (matrix-negative image) which do the actual striking of the coins.

The process of the transfer of the design from one to another in the above steps involves using several tons of pressure when the image is stamped onto a piece of steel to create a die. Even with that, it takes at least two impressions (hubbings) to create a fully detailed die. In the case of larger coins with deeper reliefs such as the 10 litų, several impressions were necessary to make a full negative (matrix) die used to strike the coins (Reference point: for U.S. silver dollars it often took up to a dozen impressions to make a complete die).

If during the subsequent pressings of the image the dies are not exactly the same, or in the same position as when they were impressed the first time

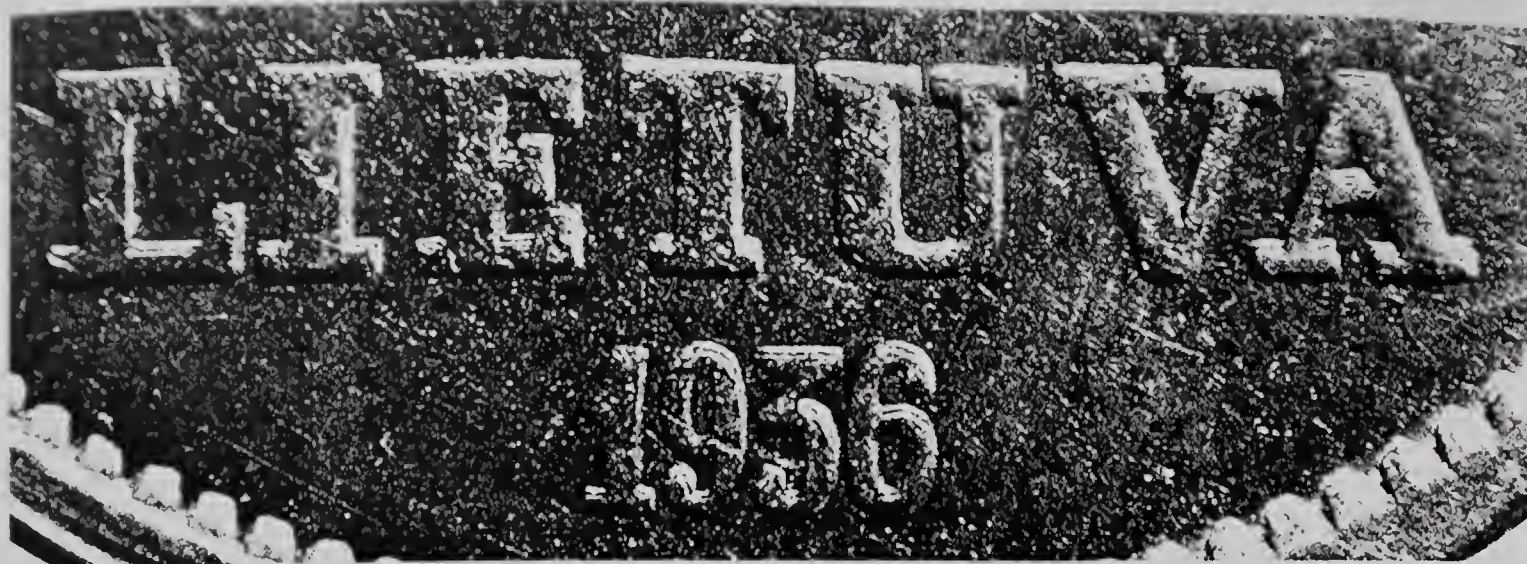


No. 4 coin, VCR#4/DDR#2(3) top legend. Strong doubling on the top of the letters on the word "VYTAUTAS." Photos by Jaunutis Burbulis.



No. 4 coin, bottom legend. Strong doubling exhibited on the bottoms of letters & numerals, as shown by "DEŠIMTS" above. (Continued on page 2...)

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From
Page
1...)



No. 3 Coin. VCR#3/DDO#3(4) The word "LIETUVA," especially the inside bottom of the letter "L" and the letter "A" is quadrupled. The date is doubled.

(shifted, misaligned, pivoted, distorted or flattened by wear or pressure), then "hub doubling" occurs on the new die being produced. This hub doubling will therefore appear on a coin struck from a die that had been doubled when it was produced. NOTE: We are not talking about strike doubling, where a coin "jiggles" when it is struck and produces a multiple (struck twice) image in places. For more detailed information about doubled-dies, consult the standard numismatic reference "The Cherrypickers' Guide To Rare Die Varieties" by Bill Fivaz.

In the case of the 1936 Vytautas coins struck at the Kaunas Mint, the hub doubling would have occurred during the last step when the working hubs produced the working dies used to strike the coins. It would not have occurred when the master hub was used to produce the master dies or when the master dies produced the working hubs. Otherwise, all Vytautas coins would have the same errors.

Regarding the producing of dies for the Lithuanian Mint, Director of the Kaunas Coin Mint 1936-1939, Jonas K. Karys in his book "*Nepriklausomos Lietuvos Pinigai* [Independent Lithuanian Money]," 1953, writes (pg. 222) "From the basic dies produced in Belgium, engraved by the pantographic process [these would be the master hubs which were produced with that process], and with specially rolled metal blanks, the Kaunas Coin Mint prepared for itself the required number of dies or matrices and struck the coins...Since all the coins had to be identical, replacing the matrix dies consumed the most time."

In his article "The Coin Mints of Kaunas" published in the book *Numizmatika* (1970), pg. 296,

Karys writes, "The master dies [Editor's note: technically these would be the master *hubs* since in the first reference he mentions the pantographic process] for the Kaunas Mint were prepared at the Belgium Coin Mint in Brussels...For all the subordinate dies, with which the coins are actually struck, we had the facilities to prepare them and we did so locally."

From the above references, we can deduce that the Kaunas Mint received the positive-relief (patrix) master hubs from the Brussels Mint in Belgium. They then went through the three steps mentioned earlier to produce the many negative-relief (matrix) working dies.

In her book "*Lietuvos Pinigai 1915-1941*," (1995), Rūta Kuncienė illustrates (pg. 138, illustration IX) a 1936 10 litų Vytautas coin "die," which because of the positive relief (patrix) would make it a working hub. On the next page are photos of the 1938 10 litų in positive relief, again, hubs. Also shown however, are negative-matrix dies (probably striking) of the unstruck 1938 2 litai coins. So these illustrations show that the Kaunas Mint was involved in the die-making process.

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page 4...)



THIS POSITIVE
IMAGE (Patrix)
HUB WOULD
HAVE BEEN
USED TO MAKE
A STRIKING DIE.

17th CENTURY STANDARD CATALOG OF WORLD COINS.

3.

The Standard Catalog of World Coins by Chester Krause and Clifford Mishler with Colin Bruce as the Senior Editor, has gained a reputation of being the main source in the numismatic community for identification reference numbers (KM-) for world coinage, as well as a pricing guide. Through the years the SCWC has been expanded to include various centuries in their own volumes. Recently the 3rd edition of the 17th century SCWC covering the period 1601-1700 was published.

This "telephone book size" edition measures 2½" thick, and contains 1,363 pages. Information about obtaining the book is found on the www.krause.com website of the publishers, Krause Publications, 700 E. State St., Iola, Wisconsin 54990-0001. (715) 445-2214. To place a book order or obtain a free product catalog, call 800-258-0929.

Of interest to Lithuanian collectors of course, is the section of Lithuanian coins minted during the 1600s. These are found on pp. 1056-1058. Most of Lithuania's coinage during this period was issued by just two rulers, Sigismund III Vaza, and Jonas Kasimieras.

The beginning of the listing contains a short history of Lithuania as appears in the 20th century edition, including the initials "LMK" for the mintmark for "Vilna." Those initials of course, are a 1990s feature and did not appear on 17th century Lithuanian coins.

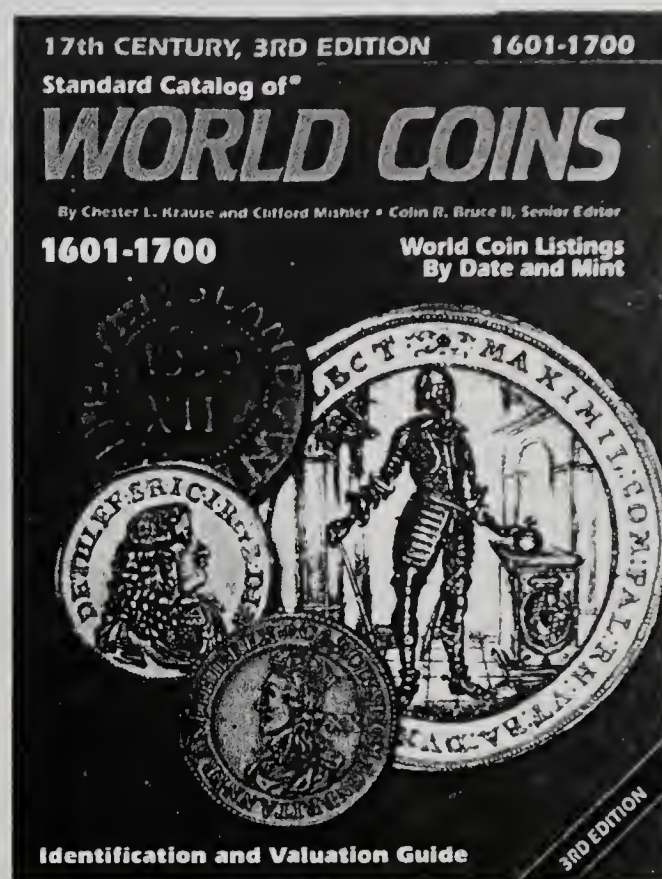
There then appears a listing of the various mintmasters during this period, and a written description of their initials that appear on the coins. Jonušas Štypla 1606-1618 whose symbol was an upward arrow (See Douchis/Ivanauskas pg. 171), is missing from the listing and was instead erroneously placed under the treasurers listing below, resulting in overlapping dates for the treasurers.

Next follows a listing of the treasurers during this period and their privy marks found on coins, by description, rather than by illustration. In looking through the book, however, on the next page the listing for Livonia for example (p. 1058), does show illustrations of the actual markings along with the descriptions. So this will be something that could be added for the Lithuania listings for the next edition, and other countries as well which would probably increase the size of the book even more.

The listings are arranged by denominations then dates, beginning with the 2-denari coins, in the following order: 2-denari, schilling, grosz, 1½-grosz, 3-groszy, 6-groszy, 18-groszy (ort), gulden/zloty, ½ ducat, ducat, 3-ducats, 5-ducats, and 10-ducats. The gold coinage also contains technical information and includes the composition, full weight, actual gold weight, and legends. The last coin issued by Lithuania during this period was the lone 6-groszy in 1679 during the reign of Jonas Sobieskis. It should be noted that actual photographs of coins are used for illustrations, not drawings. The 10-ducat gold coin photographs are especially beautiful.

The listings are basic and do not include the numerous legend varieties that are found in the Sajauskas/Kaubrys reference, nor cross-reference catalog numbers found in the Douchis/Ivanauskas reference.

(Continued on page 10...)



MINT OFFICIALS' INITIALS

Initial	Date	Name
LMK	1600-03	? - Vlna
HT	1618-23	Jonusas Trilneris
II, II - VE	1623-27	Jokubas Jakobsonas van Emoenas
RL (monogram)	1623-27	Rudolf Lohman
IT	1639	Jonusas Trilneris
TLB	1660-66	Titus Livijus Boratinis, Tenant
	1664-66	Brzesc. Litowski, C. Bandine, Tenant
GFH	1663	Georgas Fon Hornis
GFH	1665-66	Teodor Horn, Kovno

PRIVY MARKS

Mark	Date	Name
hook	1599-1604	Zacharias Boll
(a) - swan	1598-1604	Anorius Zrvisa
(b) - HW or 2 arrows	1605-18	Jeronimas Valavicius
Arrow up	1606-18	Jonusas Stypla
(c) - 2 fish	1618-30	Kristupas Narvsevicius
	1630-35	Stieponas Pacas
	1636-44	Mykolas Kiska
(d) - lily	1644-52	Mykolms Georonas Tryzna
(e) - bird w/ ring	1652-62	Vincintas Gonsievskis
(f) - KHPL or buck's head	1663-76	Jeronimas Kryspinias
		Kirsensteinas
	1676-1703	Benediktas Povilas Sapiega

DUCHY

STANDARD COINAGE



KM# 8 2 DENARI Composition: Silver Obverse:
Crowned S monogram divides date, value below Reverse:
Vytis on horseback to left, mint mark below

Date	VG	F	VF	XF	Unc
1606	100	150	175	200	—
1607	100	150	175	200	—
1609	20.00	40.00	50.00	75.00	—
1611	10.00	20.00	40.00	60.00	—
1612	10.00	20.00	40.00	60.00	—
1613	10.00	20.00	40.00	60.00	—
1614	125	175	200	225	—

KM# 15.1 2 DENARI Composition: Silver Reverse:
below Vytis

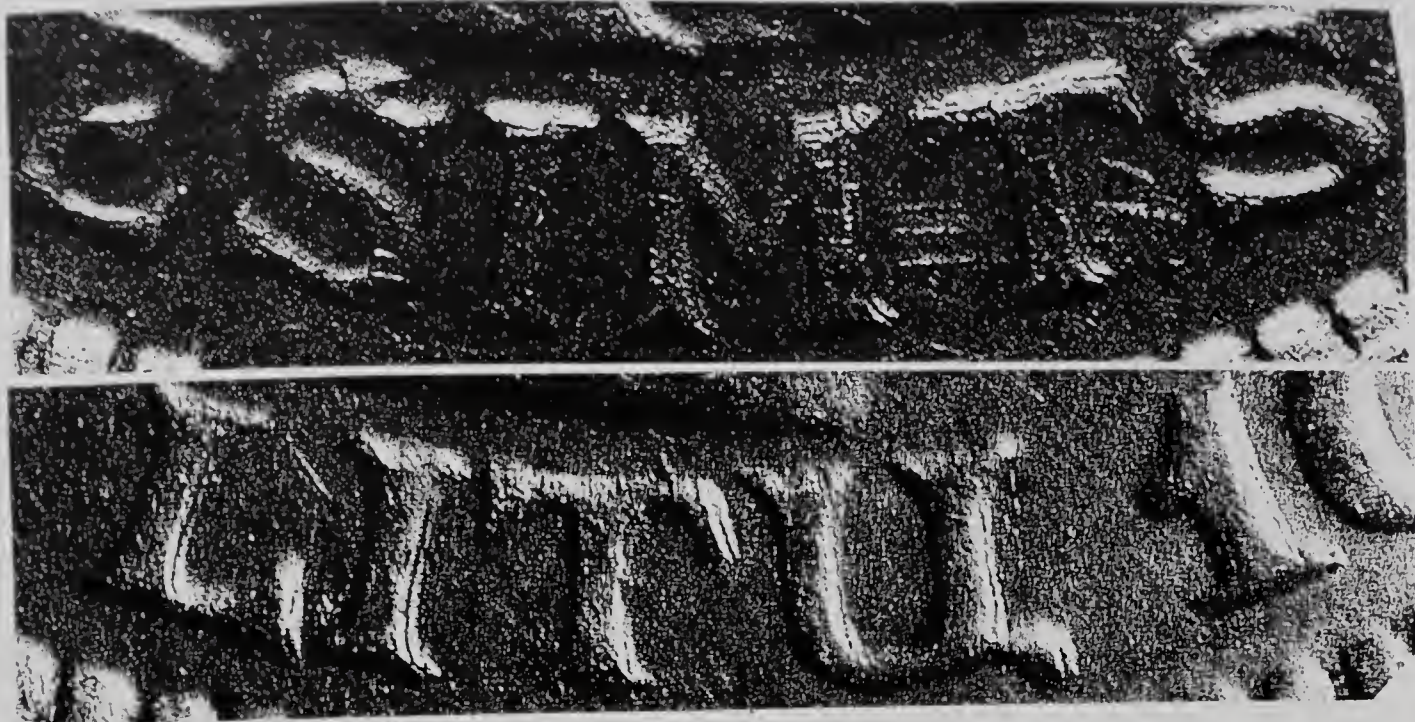
Date	VG	F	VF	XF	Unc
1612 H	150	200	225	250	—
1614 H	125	175	200	225	—

KM# 15.2 2 DENARI Composition: Silver Note: Without
mint mark.

Date	VG	F	VF	XF	Unc
1619	35.00	45.00	65.00	100	—

4. DOUBLED-DIE 1936 10 LITŲ (VYTAUTAS) COINS DISCOVERED!

(Continued from page 2...)



No. 5 Coin VCR#5DDR#3 exhibits doubling on the right side of the lettering in "DEŠIMTS LITŲ 10"

Kuncienė also sheds further light on the 1936 10 litų in particular, and the technical problems in minting the coin (Pg. 120): Both sides of the 5 and 10 litas models of coins contain complicated relief views: portraits, and Vytis. This created certain difficulties during the preparation of the dies of the coins. The Act of May 6, 1936 by the Royal Mint of Brussels stated that the relief of the models was too high, and that during the striking of the [proposed] coins the dies could not resist the pressure. Also it was explained that it is not customary to mint coins with images on both sides (Vytis, portrait). One side should have an uncomplicated design. Taking these remarks into consideration, new models of a lower relief for the reverse of the 5 litas [Basanavičius side] and the obverse [Vytis side] of the 10 litų were made, but the portrait of Basanavičius and the Vytis were still not removed. Maybe this decision was influenced by the composition of Lithuanian medals whose both sides often combined portraits, different views, and allegorical figures."

Karys echoes the problems the Lithuanian Mint had in striking the coins with the high-relief images of Vytautas the Great: (*Nepriklausomos*, pg. 202) The first type, with high relief on the reverse with the ornamentation of Vytautas the Great, his toga, and his crown, did not lend itself to be struck in its full beauty, so about 15% of the number of blanks selected for striking were thrown into the fire. 846,000 blanks were used to strike these coins. Subtracting from that figure 15%, it would be almost accurate to say that about 720,000 pieces of this coin was struck in Kaunas."

With the previous information as background, it is amazing that the newly-discovered doubled-die errors

were not stopped at the Lithuanian Mint before they were produced. Jonas K. Karys wrote (*Nepriklausomos*, pg. 223): "Piecework will not fit in at a coin mint. Well trained eyes of the workmen would notice the smallest change in the stamp [die], and immediately it was replaced with a fresh die. The guiding principle was: it is not important how many coins will be struck in an hour or a day. Of prime importance is that they all should be identical to the model, as two drops of water are identical. In this respect, Engineer Kuliukas, body and soul of the Mint's technical staff, had enormous concern and responsible work."

"The finished coins were examined by the officials and selected workmen separately. The smallest slip and the coin landed in the fire where it was melted."

Despite the precautions that were taken and the claims made, we've got five different doubled-die errors to report to our readers of *The Knight* that were missed by the inspectors of both the dies and coins.

The first "hub doubled" doubled-die error discovered, was reported by H. A. Kuykendall of Virginia and mentioned in the May 1998 issue of *World Coin News* in the column by Ken Potter entitled "Visiting Varieties." It was subsequently illustrated and described his August 2002 pp. 59-60 edition of the same column. What makes this doubled-die error especially attractive is that doubling occurs on both sides of the coin!

Coin No. 1. This is the coin that was listed in the *World Coin News* article and cataloged in the *Variety Coin Register* as VCR#1/DDO#1/DDR#1 (3). (Note: The number in the parentheses following the

catalog number indicates either 3 for tripling, or 4 for quadrupling) The WCN article stated, "The obverse [Vytis/date side] exhibits moderate to strong doubling on the date, Lietuva, horse's rear legs, tail and head." This coin is easily recognizable by the prominent doubling on both the inside bottom, and bottom loops of the numeral "9." The article continued, "The reverse [Vytautas side] shows nice tripling on all lettering and ornamentation about the rim." A collector should especially look at the words "10 DEŠIMTS LITŲ."

Coin No. 2. The second hub doubled variety of a 1936 Vytautas coin was written about by Mr. Potter in October 2002, and was submitted by a Mr. William Waring of Wisconsin. It has been cataloged as VCR#2/DDO#2. It is similar (but different) to #1, and shows moderate doubling on the horse's head, the body of the knight, sword, "LIETUVA" and date "1936." There is also some light doubling on the rear of the horse's legs.

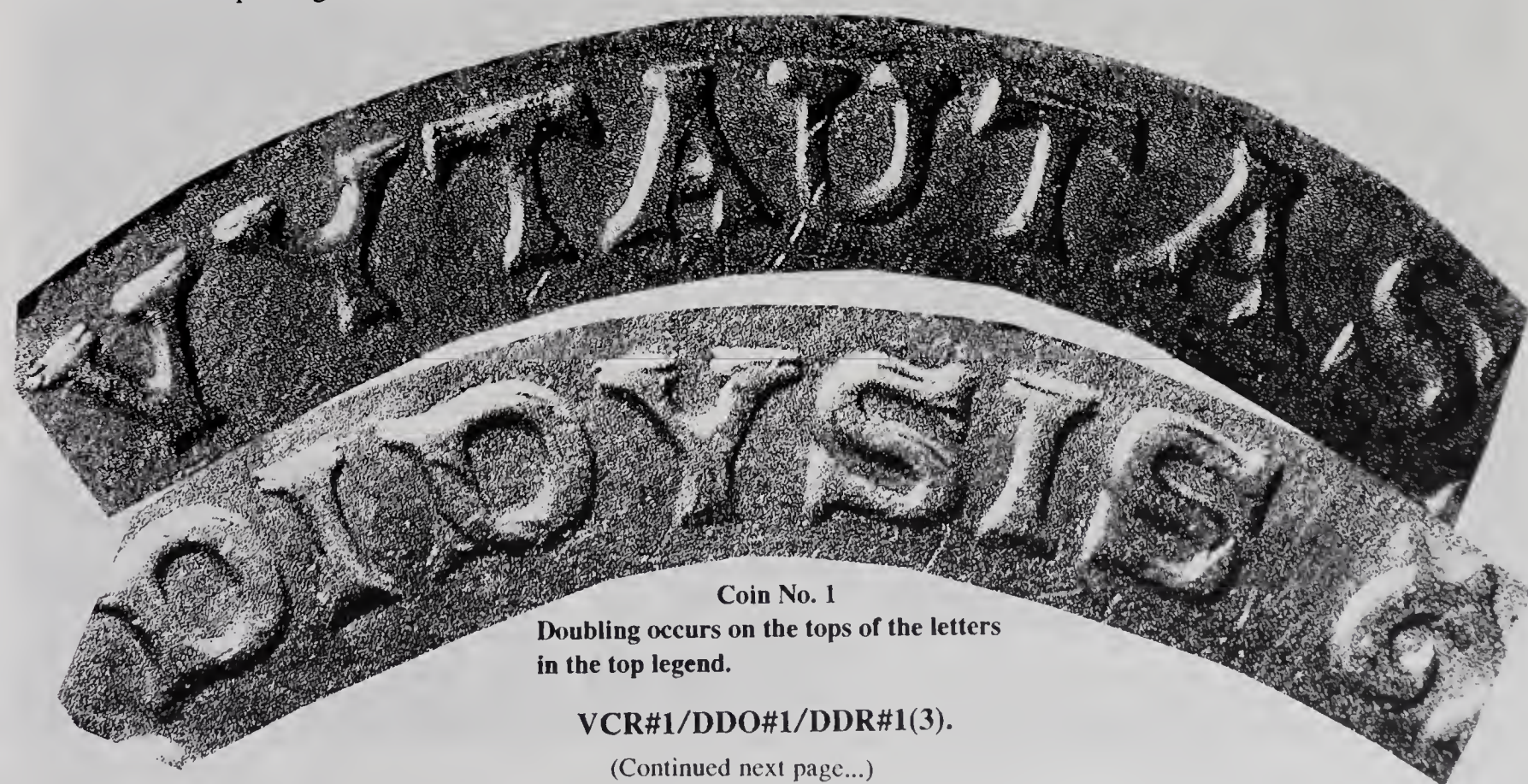
After learning of these two varieties, this writer checked his own stock of 1936 Vytautas coins, and found he has one exactly like the first one. He also checked dealers stocks at coin shows and private collections for a total of about 100 coins inspected.

Among these, this writer found three completely different other significant hub doubling varieties which have now been assigned VCR numbers by Mr. Potter who examined each and photographed them. I am reporting to our members here. Please

check your 1936 10 litų coins and see if you have any that match these descriptions and photographs. Let us know if you do, and also if you find any others not described.

It should be noted at this point that minor hub doubling was common for European coins of this period, including Lithuanian coins. Out of approximately 100 coins inspected, this writer found that 8 of them displayed minor doubling on the tops of the letters of "LIETUVA," portions of the date "1936" on the obverse, and the word "DEŠIMTS" on the reverse. You may find these on some of your coins. In such cases the letters do not have a straight "drop off," but rather there may be an extra line or two which slants the edge of the letter down into the field. Coins listed in the Variety Coin Register surpass the minor doubling stage, and move into the moderate realm where they become collectible and are listed as a variety.

Coin No. 3. This variety not only exhibits doubling--it exhibits quadrupling! It occurs on the obverse (Vytis) side. Quadrupling is most prominent on the word LIETUVA. It is most pronounced on the inside bottom of the letter "L." There you'll find four (4) "steps" or quadrupling. It is less prominent on the other letters, but is definitely there. The tops of those letters also have quadrupling. In other words, this error occurred with an up and down shift in the dies that left four different position images. The denticles at the bottom especially are doubled or tripled the same way,



Coin No. 1

Doubling occurs on the tops of the letters in the top legend.

VCR#1/DDO#1/DDR#1(3).

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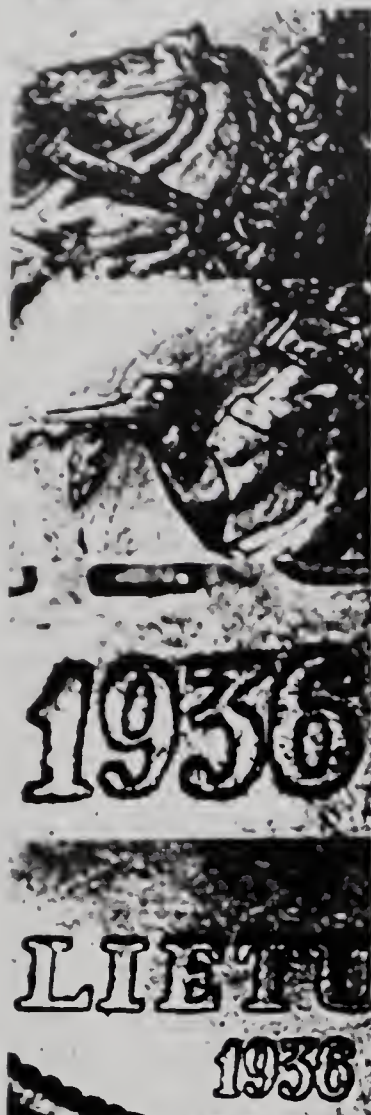
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up and down, rather than sideways. On the date "1936," it exhibits less evident quadrupling, but a definite doubling can be seen on the outside of the top part of the loop on the numeral "6." This coin has been assigned a catalog number of VCR #3/DDO#3 (4).

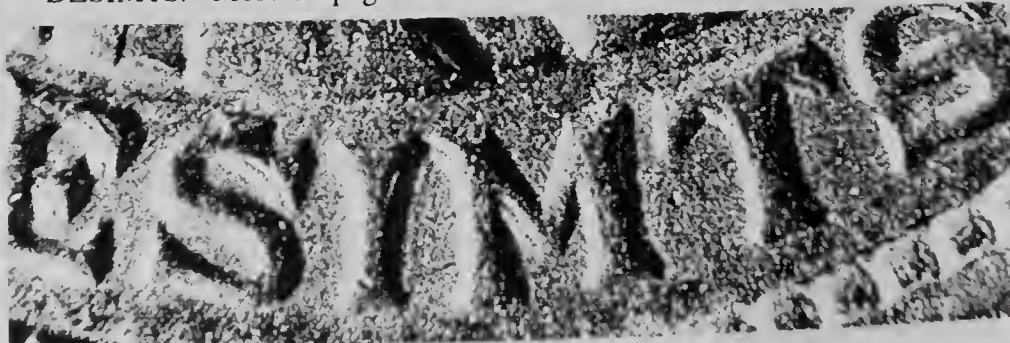
Coin No. 4. This example contains the most prominent hub-doubling of all of the coins discovered to this date. The doubling found on the reverse (Vytautas side). There is definitely doubling on both the legend, and the image. Vytautas has a double nose. On the word "VYTAUTAS," the doubling is most prominent on the top of the letters. The most prominent doubling however, occurs on the bottom legend "10 DEŠIMTS LITŲ 10." The doubling here is found on the *left* and *underneath* the main lettering. There is also evidence of tripling on the tops of the letters, especially the letter "T" in "DEŠIMTS." Tripling also appears on the denticles. Because of the moderate doubling on the reverse, this coin appears to be a major "prize" for the variety collector to obtain. It has been assigned a catalog number of VCR#4 /DDR#2 (3). This writer has been able to find four of these, which may indicate that it is the most "collectible" of the varieties presented here.

It should be noted that the obverse (Vytis side) of VCR #4 contains minor doubling which can be seen on the tops of the letters of the word LIETUVA.

Coin No. 5. The doubling occurs on the reverse (Vytautas side) on the bottom legend. It is not as prominent as VCR #4. The difference with this variety however is that the doubling is shifted to the *right* and *inside tops* of the main lettering, while #3 had it shifted to the *left* and *underneath* the letters. Mr. Potter has cataloged this as VCR #5/DDR#3. There is also doubling on the right side of the denticles. We've also noticed some tripling under microscope, especially on the inside loop of the right ornament decoration after the numeral "10."



Coin No. 1 VCR#1/DDO#1/DDR#1(3). Photos by Jaunutis Burbulis. Above: Doubling is particularly evident on the bottom of the numerals "1," and "9" in the date; and the bottoms of the letters in "LIETUVA." Below: doubling appears on the left and bottoms in "DEŠIMTS." More on page 9...



ABOVE: Coin No. 2, doubling on date, LIETUVA, and rear of horse legs. VCR#2DDO#2. Photos by Ken Potter.

JEWISH GHETTO SOUVENIR NOTES ISSUED

7.

Kaunas artist Alvydas Bulaka designed and printed a set of fantasy notes on the 50th anniversary of the destruction of the Jewish Ghetto in Vilnius. 1,000 sets of the notes were printed, in denominations of: 1, 2, 5, 20, 50, and 100 "Šalomas." A set of notes has been selling for around U.S. \$20 to tourists and collectors. The notes bear a date of February 2, 2002. They have blueish-purple tint, with various red, green, blue and tan shades on the right depending upon the denomination.

The face of the notes feature an altar-like piece with a menorah in the center. The Star of David appears on the right. The 6-digit green serial number appears vertically on the left. The English language text, "Ghetto in Vilnius 1943-2003" appears horizontally in the lower left. The denomination name "Vienas Šalomas" etc. appears in the right top and bottom margins.

The back features the Star of David on the left, with the horizontal text below, "Skirta Vilniaus getui atminti," meaning "In memory of the destruction of the Ghetto in Vilnius." In the upper center is the date: "2002.02.02." On the right with each denomination are various street scenes of buildings in the Jewish section of Vilnius. In the English language vertically appears on the right the text "Ghetto in Vilnius 1943-2003." The denomination is spelled out in red in the upper and lower right borders.

The information sheet that came with these notes supplied to us from Juozas Minikevičius of Jurbaraskas states as follows:

"JEWISH GHETTO IN VILNIUS. The Hitlerian Germany attacked the Soviet Union on 22nd June 1941. Part of 80,000 Vilnius Jews moved together with the Red Army. Some of them found safety in the woods around Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania. Many of them stayed in Vilnius because they had nowhere to go. Their worst fears were that the Nazis would turn Vilnius into a ghetto, like in Poland, where all the Jews were forced to lived together.

On 6th September 1941 these fears were realized and the first ghetto in Vilnius was established. As ghetto chairman was elected Jokūbas Gencas. By the Gestapo he was shot late Autumn 1943. The year 2003 marks the 100th anniversary of his birth. Thousands of people were jammed into the old Jewish block in the center of the city. In September 1941 many Lithuanian Jews were either slaughtered or died from starvation or the heat or from various illnesses. By the end of the summer, there were no more than 40,000 Jews left in Vilnius.



In December 1941, 12,000 Jews were either killed or taken away to Minsk and by January 1942 there were only about 34,000 Jews left alive in Vilnius. The decimation of the Jews was a priority of the Nazis. Many of the Jews were killed by the so-called "Schiesparaden" when drunken soldiers, or their sidekicks, would go into the ghetto and sadistically kill Jews for fun. The main cause of death in the ghetto was hunger and illness.

Another way the Nazis carried out mass murder was when they took thousands of Jews into the woods and made them stand at the side of trenches that had already been dug. They were then shot and fell into the trenches. More Jews were then shot and their bodies would fall into the trenches on top of the other bodies. This was carried out until the trenches were full.

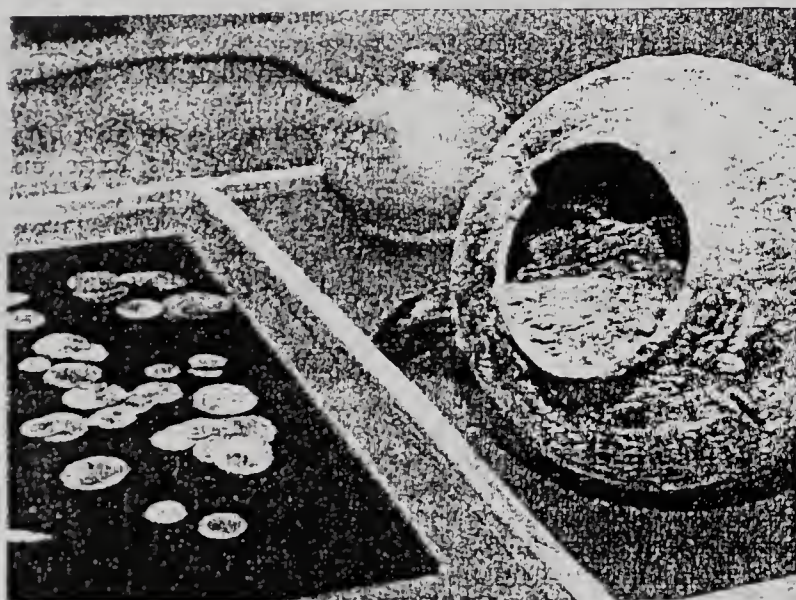
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Another unique find!

Aleksandras Radžius

Lithuanian archeologists have hit numismatic paydirt again! The November 27 issue of daily *Kauno Diena* reports that during excavations in a yard of a house on Laurinas Stuoka-Gucevičius Street in Vilnius, two glazed ceramic jars, one was filled coins and the other partially filled, were found.

Dalia Grimalauskaitė, Director of the Lithuanian National Museum's Numismatic Department said that this find is unique because the hoard is intact. This she says is very fortunate, since hoards are generally divided up among the finders, dispersed and subsequently lost.



One of two glazed ceramic savings jars excavated this past November 7 in Vilnius and some of the coins found inside.

Lithuanian half-groschen of King Sigismund II the Old and King Sigismund III August, Polish 1 1/2 ort and one ort coins, orts of Dansig and Prussia, Danish skillings and marks as well as a single Dutch coin were inside the jars.

The name ORT comes from the German language ORTSTHALER, meaning 1/4 of a thaler. Theoretically, these coins were of about 1/4 ounce weight, i.e., about 5 pennyweight, or about 120 grains or about 7.8 grams. In actuality they were often underweight. Orts were not minted in Lithuania until 1664, i.e., during the reign King John Casimier (1650-1668). In Lachia and Polonia they had been minted since 1621.

The fact that coins spanning over 100 years and from various countries were found

together is just another example of the numismatic reality when dealing with species coinage. When species coins were the only numismatic media of exchange, the coin's age or country of origin was never an item of concern, rather, only the precious metal content and the weight of the coin was important. Another example, though from American side of the Atlantic - the British shipped coins from New York aboard HMS Feversham in 1771 to pay their troops in Canada. Among the coins were NE, Willow, Oak and Pine Tree silver coinage and cut fractions minted illegally, according to the British, a century earlier by the American colonists of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

"Besides these two coin savings jars, over one hundred whole and fragments of savings jars have been found in Vilnius," said Dalia Grimalauskaitė of the Numismatic Department of the Lithuanian National Museum during a press conference. We can easily infer from the large number of these "savings jars" discovered in Vilnius, that Vilnius was a thriving center of commerce and industry at the time. They undoubtedly served not only as secure "deposit boxes" during period wars and unrest, but also as "night depositories" for merchants at the time. Since during the reign of King Sigismund II the Old, a teamster, with his wagon and an ox could be hired for a groschen and a half for a day, this hoard could easily have represented the wages for a goodly number of years of a common man. Possibly someone hid this fortune just prior to the 1665 Moscovite occupation, and it was never retrieved. Possibly the hoard was buried by debris from a burning building, or the owner was killed, or he was deported into Russia never to return home.

At this time, only a preliminary dating of the hoard can be made, i.e., the first half of the 17th century. More accurate dating will be possible after the coins are cleaned and x-rayed.

Other items found during the excavation were a glazed ceramic pitcher, leather shoes and pieces of shoes, parts of a wooden wheel, clay dishes in good condition, two harberds, a wooden spoon as well as other household items and fragments of clothing.

The archeological dig was supervised by Valdas Vainilaitis. Asta Jakštienė will be restoring the coins and is promising to have a report prepared by next year. Since the coins were stored in jars, hopefully they did not suffer corrosive deterioration as coins buried for hundreds of years in the soil might have. Thus, hopefully, some of the coins will show only metal loss due to clipping, i.e., metal from the edge of the coin was clipped or scraped off and when the individual doing this had accumulated a quantity of these clipping/shavings, he would take them to a mintor and exchange them, at a discount, for minted coins. It would be good if, in the preparation of the report, coins which had not been clipped are grouped separately from those which had been clipped. This would provide data for a comparison of actual coin weight variations to theoretical and statutory weight stipulations. Further, it is hoped that the photography of the coins is of equal quality to those of the Remecas report. And, since non-destructive assay techniques are available, at least from one source in Rumania, the metal compositions of at least a sample of the coins might be determined. Granted, with such a large number of coins, economic considerations are a limiting factor.

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DOUBLED-DIE ERRORS (Continued from page 6...)

AT RIGHT: Coin No. 1 obverse shows doubling on the right side of the hind legs/hoofs, and tail.

VILNIUS FAIR TOKENS

Illustrated below is the "4 Kaziai" souvenir token from the Kaziuko Fair held in Vilnius. These tokens were struck on March 2, 2002 with a diameter of 22 mm., in aluminum alloy.

The obverse features Kaziuko in the center. The legend reads "KAZIUKO MUGE VILNIUS 2002." The reverse states, "4 KAZIAI." Below in a small shield are the initials "KS." The borders are beaded on both sides.

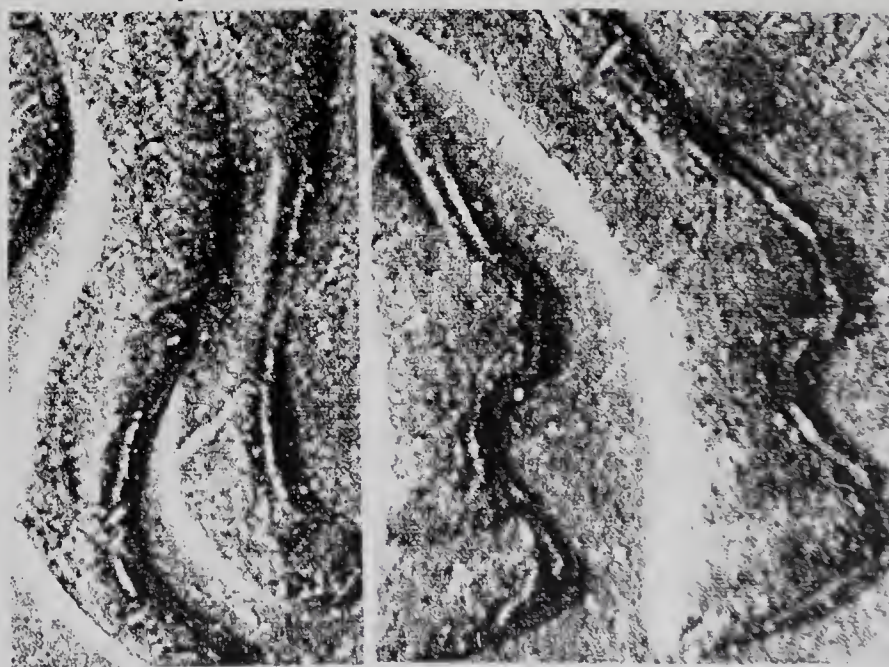


These tokens have appeared recently on the e-bay auction site and have been fetching around \$5.00 apiece. The description states that these souvenir tokens were made with a "hand machine" and were valid at the fair only from March 1 through March 3 2002.

JEWISH GHETTO NOTES

(Continued from page 7...)

On 23rd September 1943, the ghetto in Vilnius was liquidated. All ghetto inhabitants were moved to Paneriai, a nice woodland about 10 kilometers from Vilnius. They were killed by a single gunshot. These bodies were buried in seven huge graves. When the Nazis realized their reign of terror was coming to an end, they dug up 7,000 bodies and burned them to try to hide any evidence of slaughter."



WANT/FOR SALE ADS

For Sale: 1936 Y-13/KM-83 1936 10 litų (Vytautas) with *doubled-die error* No. VCR#4/DDR#2(3). XF condition. Make offer via e-mail: albionfp@hotmail.com.

Also For Sale: Germany/Lithuania 10 punkte note World War II, 1945 exp. date; XF condition, \$53.00. Frank Passic, 900 S. Eaton St., Albion, MI 49224.

Your Want Ad here! All done collecting or have-it-all? Just starting out? **Need something that CATCHES** your attention? **FREE !!** Free service to *LNA members!* List what you need, or what you have for sale of your Lithuanian collection here!

LITHUANIAN CIRCULATION COINAGE DATES

As we begin the year 2004, we thought we would keep our readers up-to-date on the status of Lithuanian coinage that is issued into circulation for commerce.

There were NO coins dated 2003 that were minted and/or issued for circulation. Only coins housed in the collector mint set bore the date 2003.

The website of the Bank of Lithuania (www.lbank.lt) lists the following years the current design regular circulation coins have been dated and issued:

10 Centų: 1997 through 2000
20 Centų: 1997 through 2000
50 Centų: 1997 through 2000
1 Litas: 1998 through 2002
2 Litai: 1998 through 2002
5 Litai: 1998 through 2000

Original design coins of every denomination were previously issued into circulation in 1993 bearing a generic date of 1991. This included 1, 2, and 5 centai aluminum coins. In addition, a 1 litas bank anniversary commemorative coin dated 1997 was issued, and a 1 litas Baltic Way coin in 1998 was placed into circulation.

**LITAS
EXCHANGE
RATE
1/12/2004**

Code	Rate
EUR	3.4528
USD	2.7086
GBP	4.9989
CHF	2.2078
EEK	0.2207
LVL	5.1202
RUB	0.0938
PLN	0.7356

STANDARD CATALOG

(Continued from page 3...)

They do provide however, a basic identification knowledge to the general collecting public for further investigation.

The pricing of the coins reflecting current market trends was done by Thomas Michael, Market Analyst for Krause Publications in consultation with contributors to the SCWC. Coins are listed and priced in the following graders: Very Good; Fine, Very Fine; Extremely Fine (XF), and Uncirculated, the latter of which just has a -- line through the pricing space. No one apparently saved any uncirculated rolls back then...Lithuanian collectors will also appreciate the listings of related coinage from countries such as Poland, and Livonia in the SCWC for comparison.

Illustrated on page 3 is the listing of various officials, and a sample of the Lithuanian 2-denari listing in the SCWC. For a collector of world coins of this period, and for Lithuanian collectors, this book is an excellent resource for one's numismatic library.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR ANA CONVENTION IN PITTSBURGH

The American Numismatic Association Convention is being held in Pittsburgh, PA August 18-22. We are tentatively planning a meeting of our LNA there on Saturday, August 21. Mark your calendars. More information later.

THE KNIGHT, Volume 26, No. 3. Issue #139. January-February 2004. The official publication of the Lithuanian Numismatic Association. Aleksandras Radžius, Baltimore, MD., DIRECTOR. Frank Passic, Albion, Michigan, EDITOR.

Subscription/Membership to Volume 26 (5 issues) a donation of \$15 or more. Write: Lithuanian Numismatic Association, c/o Alex Radžius, P.O. Box 22696, Baltimore, MD 21203. E-Mail: Lithnumis@hotmail.com.

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